History of Portsmouth
1638 - 1936

HISTORY

OF

Portsmouth,
RHODE ISLAND
1638-1936

WEST

1936

Title Page

Portsmouth, Rhode Island, before 1800

by Edward H. West

PORTSMOUTH, a town on the northern part of the Island of Rhode Island, formerly called Aquidneck, belonged to the Aquidneck Indians. These Indians were conquered by the strong Narragansett tribe, and it was the Narragansett Sachems who sold it to the white settlers.

In order to really understand the story of the settlement of Portsmouth, we must go back to Boston, or the Massachusetts Bay Colony. In the year 1634, there arrived in Boston, William Hutchinson, and his wife, Anne, a woman who was to change conditions in New England far beyond the expectations of the staid Puritans of that town.

At that time religion was the backbone of the state, and hairs were split on the interpretation of the Scriptures. Anne Hutchinson's opinions differed from those of the orthodox churchmen, and soon she had established a bi-weekly meeting of her own. At this meeting she explained the sermon of the Sunday before, or at least, how she understood it. Soon men began to attend these talks, and at times there were present as many as eighty persons. By that time there were discussions, as well as explanations, and questions were asked by the people and answered by Anne Hutchinson. Many accounts of these events have been written, and the whole story cannot be told in this narrative. Anne was tried before the Court and found guilty of "traducing the ministers and their ministry," excommunicated, and sentenced to be banished. Her followers

were ordered to appear before the court, and in order to "prevent riots," were ordered disarmed.

Even before these final events, some of the men, mostly followers of Anne, discussed the advisability of founding a separate colony, where they could get away from the interference with their religious life. These men, many of them holding office, and practically all of them educated, met on the seventh of March 1638, probably at the house of William Coddington, and signed the following Compact.

Originally there were twenty-three signers, but four names seem to be crossed out, although three of them became Inhabitants of Portsmouth at an early date. Perhaps the line across their names was not intentional, but accidental.

The Compact

The 7th day of the first month 1638

We whose names are underwritten do here solemnly in the presence of Jehovah incorporate our selves into a Bodie Politick and as he shall help will submit our persons laves and estates unto our Lord Jesus Christ the King of Kings and Lord of Lords and to all those perfect and most absolute laws of his given in his holy word of truth to be guided and judged thereby

William Coddington	Exod 24. 3. 4 *
John Clarke	2 Cron II.3 †
William Hutchinson	2 Kings II.17 ‡

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*"And Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord: and all the judgements: and all the people answered with one voice and said, all the words which the Lord hath said will we do."

"And Moses wrote all the words of the Lord, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillers according to the twelve tribes of Israel."

†"Speak unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin."

‡"And Jahoiada made a covenant between the Lord and the King and the people, that they should be the Lords people, between the King also and the people."

John Coggeshall
William Aspinwall
Samuel Wilbore
John Porter
John Sanford
Edward Hutchinson Jun Esq
Thomas Savage
William Dyre
William Freeborne
Phillip Shearman
John Walker
Richard Carder
William Baulston
Edward Hutchinson Senr
Henory X Bulle his marke
Randall Howldon
Thomas Clarke
John Johnson
William Hall
John Brightman X his marke

John Clarke in company with two others, one of them probably being Randall Holden, and with the advice and help of Roger Williams, purchased of Conanicus and Miantonomah, chief Sachems of the Narragansett tribe of Indians, the Island of Aquidneck, as well as the grass on some of the smaller islands in the bay. The deed was dated 24th of March 1637, and the consideration was forty fathom of white beads. To this was added ten coats and twenty hoes, on condition that the Indians left the Island before the next winter. Later other agreements were made with the Indians for grass privileges and for ground broken up, for which was paid more wampum and coats. There is a receipt, signed by Mianto-

nomah, and Conanicus, for twenty-three coats and thirteen hoes "to distribute to the Indians that did inhabit the Island of Aquidnecke".

Some of the party came from Boston over the Indian trails, while others came by boat. No record exists of where they landed when they arrived at the Island, but it was probably near the site of Stone Bridge, or in the Cove, probably the latter place.

The first recorded meeting was held May 13, 1638, and the first law was "that none shall be received as inhabitants or Freemen to build or plant upon the Island but such as shall be received in by the consent of the Bodye and do submit to the Government that is or shall be established according to the word of God".

It was also ordered that the "Towne shall be builded at the Springe". "It is further ordered that every Inhabitant of this Island shall be always provided of one muskett one pound of powder twenty bullets and two fademe of match with Sword and rest and Bandeleirs, all completely furnished".

There were thirteen men at this meeting, all of them signers of the compact.

At the next meeting, one week later, but eleven men were present. At this meeting it was ordered and agreed "that every mans allottment recorded in this Book shall be sufficient evidence for him and his rightly to possess and enjoy". At this meeting many pieces of land were allotted, and at this date, the names of three men, not signers, appear.

At the meeting held June 27, 1638, the price of two shillings an acre was put upon the land. This price was unchanged as long as there was any land left, that is in 1713, as at that date, the final distribution was made. At this meeting William Hutchinson and John Coggeshall were elected Treasurers. Sixteen men attended this meeting, and it was ordered that "if any of the Freemen of this Body shall not repair to the publick meetings to treate upon the publicke affairs of the Body upon publick warning, whether by

beate of Drumm or otherwise, if they fayle one quarter of an houre after the second sound, they shall forfeitt twelve pence or if they depart without leave they are to forfeitt the same summ of twelve pence".

At the September meeting, eight men were summoned, none of them signers, to appear before "the Body for a Riott of Drunkennesse". All of them were fined, and some had to sit in the stocks.

At the meeting of November 1638, a day was set apart for a "Generall day of Trayning for the Exercise of those who are able to bear armes in the arts of military discipline and all that are of sixteen yeares of age and upwards to fifty shall be warned thereunto". A lot of about four acres, just east of the "Founders Brook", was used as a training place until 1713, when it was granted to Stephen Brayton. It was at this meeting that Edward Hutchinson was ordered to bake bread for the use of the plantation.

This same month, Mr Coggeshall, Sergeant Hutchinson, Mr Wilbore and Mr Dyre, were appointed a committee to trade with the Indians for venison, not to give over "three half pence a pound in way of trade".

At the next meeting the government was changed as Nicholas Easton, John Coggeshall and William Brenton were chosen Elders, to assist Judge Coddington, who up to that time had been at the head of the colony, in the "Execution of Justice and Judgement for the regulating and ordering of all offences and offenders" . . . "And that the Judge together with the Elders shall Rule and Governe according to the Generall Rule of the word of God".

By April 1639, the inhabitants had begun to fear for their safety, and it was ordered "that in regard of the many Incursions that the Island is subject unto and that an Alarum for the securing the place is necessary therefor it is thought meet for the present that an Alarum be appointed to give notice to all who inhabit the place that they may forthwith repair and gather together to the Howse of the Judge for the defending of the Island or quelling any

Insolences that shall be tumultuously raysed within the Plantation: Therefore the Alarum that we appoynt shall be this Three Musketts to be discharged distinctly and a Herauld appointed to goe speedily throw the Towne and crye Alarum Alarum Upon which all are to repaire immediately to the place aforesayed".

On the 28th of the 2nd month (April) 1639, came the division of the town, many of the men moving south and founding the town of Newport, which also comprised what is now Middletown. There is no doubt that politics and religion played an important part in this separation. William Coddington, head of the Colony, was not wholly in sympathy with Anne Hutchinson, who had made new followers, and William Coddington, with others, had acquired new ideas about their religious beliefs.

The records up to this time, with the Compact and the copies of the deeds of the Island were all in a book which was taken to Newport, probably by William Dyer, then Clerk, and which was then used for the Newport records. This book is now in the custody of the Secretary of State. Is also contains many of the grants of land to the settlers, as well as a list of those who were admitted Inhabitants of Portsmouth.

The First Book of the Portsmouth records is not in as good condition as the earlier book. Some of the pages are missing, and others are torn, but it has been repaired and rebound, and much information can be gathered from it. This book is one of the town's most valued possessions.

After the separation, the two towns operated independently, but in 1640, a general government for the Island was formed. Of course William Coddington was elected Governor, and the men from Portsmouth who were elected to office were, William Hutchinson and John Porter, Assistants, William Baulston, Treasurer of Portsmouth, and John Sanford, Constable of Portsmouth.

The records of the first meeting, after the separation, are not

complete, but it would seem as if they signed a new compact, which follows, the words in brackets being missing.

"We whose names are under (written doe acknowledge) ourselves the legall subjects of (his Majestic) King Charles and in his name (doe hereby binde) ourselves into a civill body politicke unto his lawes according to matters of justice."

This compact was signed by thirty-one names, William Hutchinson, William Aspinwall and William Hall, being the only signers of the first Compact. It would seem as if three of the names had been crossed out, but as William Aspinwall was the only one of the three who left the town, I do not think that the other two names were supposed to have been erased.

All of the foregoing records and the First Book have been printed in various histories and stories of the state, so I will try to give a picture of the various customs and events taken from these town records and papers. All of the books of Portsmouth have been preserved, as well as numerous papers.

The Land

This, of course, was of the most importance to the people. At the very first the allotments consisted of three-acre house lots, which were gradually enlarged to four and six acres. Many of these lots went by default, as one of the conditions was that the grantee should build a house within a year of the granting.

Soon larger tracts for farms were granted, and, as the number of inhabitants increased, the house lots were given up and the people lived on their farms. This kept the house lots changing hands, and many of the transactions were never recorded. It was realized, as early as 1644, that a clear title could not be found to some of these lots, and so provision was made that testimony or depositions before a Justice would be sufficient evidence to give the owner a title.

Up to the year 1656 the land was granted to the inhabitants as it was needed by the increasing number of inhabitants, which in that

year consisted of about seventy-one Freemen, probably all with families.

In 1857 it was decided to dispose of three hundred acres of land among the Freemen, each being entitled to an equal share. These tracts, scattered about the town, were not only a certain number of acres "more or less," but "according to quality." This meant that a man having a grant of land, part of which was swampy, would get more acreage than if he had a tract of all dry land.

In 1693 there was another division, each Freeman receiving twelve acres. In 1713, John Mumford, a well-known surveyor of those times, was engaged to survey all of the Town's commons, and in that year, each Freeman received the final allotment of twelve acres. At this time the highways were straightened out, and some of the men received part of their land adjoining their farms, while the remainder of their allotment might be miles away. On this account many of these latter grants changed hands immediately.

The Town, as built at the Spring, ran along the East Road from Sprague Street north, and also along the West Road up to Bristol Ferry. The lots on the West Road set far back of the present location of the Road. On either side of the brook, now called "Founders Brook" was the "Great" or "Town Swamp."

In the Swamp was the "Highway to the Spring" which ran the whole length of the Swamp, from the Watering Place to the "highway to the mill," now called Sprague Street. All this land was granted to the abutters in 1657, with the exception of the tract where we have placed a tablet in honor of the "Signers of the Compact." This was left open as a watering place and a place for the washing of sheep.

Opposite this watering place, and formerly butting on the Town Pond, is the site of the tavern of William Baulston. Here were held the early Town Meetings, as well as Colony Meetings, and it was here that the Town's book of Land Evidence was ordered to be kept.

East of, and adjoining the Baulston land was the home of Samuel Wilbore, and north of this, butting west on the Town Pond, was the house lot of William Brenton. This lot was sold to Francis Brayton, who gave it to his son Stephen, who in turn, sold it to Preserved Brayton. In all these transactions of this land, a house was mentioned, but, when Preserved sold it to William Anthony (in which family it stayed for many years) no mention was made of the house. Recently a cellar has been discovered on this land, and I have every reason to believe that this was the cellar of the house of William Brenton.

Probably the most peculiar sale of land in Portsmouth was made by Richard Searl, a seaman and early inhabitant of the Town, who sold his three-acre lot to Mary Paine for a pint of wine. Although he gave her no deed, she was enabled, with the aid of witnesses to the transaction, to get a clear deed from the Town. This lot was part of the land on which now stands the Bristol Ferry Inn, and it was here that John Tripp, who married Mary Paine, lived and ran his ferry to Bristol.

On the west side of the Town Pond were the houses of John Anthony and Lott Strange. In 1656 they were granted permission to dig a ditch, seven or nine feet wide, from the pond to the dry land before the house of Goodman Strange, "for the bringing up of any goods more conveniently."

On the north side of Boyd's Lane was the home of Richard Borden, while on the south side was the land of Richard Hart, afterwards owned by John Keys.

Running west from the south end of the Watering Place, was another "Highway to the Spring," known as Hawkins' Lane. On the south side of this lane was the home of Richard Hawkins, whose wife, Jane, was a great friend of Anne Hutchinson. Winthrop says that "Hawkins wife had familiarity with the devil in England."

The old settlers had many names for the tracts along the way to Common Fence Point which have long ago fallen out of use.

Calf's Pasture, Claypit Field, Flag Pond, Muskatoe Marsh, the Great Rock and Twenty Acres would be hard to find today without a long search in the records.

It is interesting to record that there are but three descendants of the original grantees of these lands who are now living on those grants, Mr. Arthur Sherman, Mr. Frank Sherman and Mr. Douglass Cornell. It is very possible that there are female descendants of the grantees, but if so, they are married and in that way have lost the family name.

Taverns, Inn Keepers and Houses of Entertainment

Among the records of the second meeting held in 1638 is found a provision for a public house. "It is ordered and agreed upon by General consent that will Baulston shall erect and sett up a howse for entertainment for Strangers, and also to brew Beare and to sell wine and strong waters and such necessary provisions as may be useful in any kind."

In 1679 it was ordered that "none of the persons shall be allowed to Sell that Sort of drink commonly Called Rum at any higher price than after the Rate of two pence the gill."

All through the records of the first book permission is given to keep taverns under some name peculiar to those times. With the exception of William Baulston's, these were generally located at the ferries. Later they were in other parts of the town.

In those days the taverns were the only places for the people to meet, and all the public meetings took place at one of them. Naturally the first meetings took place at William Baulston's, but later the Colony Meetings were held at the tavern of Captain Richard Morris, which was on the east side of the East Road, between Childs Street and Park Avenue.

In 1656 a law was passed forbidding any person to sell any liquor to an Indian either "directly or indirectly," and it was made lawful for any person who met an Indian with liquor, to take it away from him.

It was a habit of Anthony Emory, who had no license, to sell to the Indians. This is brought out in an inquest on the body of an Indian who was drowned in Emory's well, while drunk. At this inquest, held in 1670, testimony was given by several Indians, among them the Indian squaw, wife to the Sachem Philip, that Sam, the dead Indian, became troublesome, and had angry words with Tom Dumpling, an Indian.

An indictment was brought against Anthony Emory for obstructing the highway, as the well was situated outside his lot. But when the Court found that the well had been filled up, the indictment was dismissed.

This case probably caused much talk in the town, for more laws were passed pertaining to the sale of liquor to the Indians.

In 1709 it was ordered that an informer against any person selling drink without a license, should have twenty shillings out of the fine. This seemed to give steady employment to several persons, as the court records give a number of cases in which the same people testified. Some of the alleged sellers were found not guilty, although a number were convicted, some of them being women.

Defense

At an early date the inhabitants of Portsmouth took precautions against any attack from outsiders, and many laws were made requiring all inhabitants to be well armed. Very little is to be found in the records about King Philip's War, as probably there was little fear that the Indians would dare to come on the Island.

At the time of the Spanish War in 1739, a beacon was erected on Watch Hill, at the corner of the Middle Road and Mill Lane, also a Watch House was built. This "Watch House, with an Iron Crane and an Iron Kittle" were sold at auction in 1758.

In 1640 it was ordered that two barrels of powder be always ready in the town, while in 1650 it was ordered that the town shall have in its magazine, two barrels of powder, one thousand weight

of lead, twelve pikes and eighteen muskets, all in good case and fit for service.

In 1642 it was ordered that on the first Monday of every month, the "Traine Bands shall be exercised by the Commanders, excepting the months of May and August, January and February."

James Strange, a resident of Portsmouth, was killed at Cape Breton in 1745, as was William Cory, a resident of Tiverton, but who enlisted in Portsmouth.

In 1653 it was ordered that "mr Sanford, mr Boston, mr Parker, Captain Moris, leftenant Albro, Ensigne Wilbur and Philip Shearman or any four of them Consenting, shall Consult and determine all matters for the defence or offense."

There is a record of a fort in 1666, the location of which I have been unable to find. The record says "Lefftenant John Albro presented a bill of debt about work done at ye fort."

In 1667, owing to the trouble between England and France and Holland, more precautions were taken, and a beacon was ordered placed on Windmill Hill, in order to warn the neighboring colonies. At this time the first troop of horse was formed on the Island.

Schools

The first mention of a schoolhouse in Portsmouth was in August 1716, when a petition was presented to the Town Meeting, praying that a schoolhouse be built by the town on South Side (between Childs Street and Church Lane) on land left convenient for public use. This petition was granted.

At the next meeting, 10 September 1716, William Sanford granted to the town, if they would build a schoolhouse on it for the use of the southern part of the town, a triangular piece of land (on what is now Union Street) granted to him in 1713. This petition was also granted, and the schoolhouse was built.

This schoolhouse appears in the records many times, as there were numerous repairs and other matters brought up. In 1732,

George and Richard Sisson, Jr., were paid for digging a well (which is still there). It would seem as if this schoolhouse was used for other purposes, as in 1725, James Preston, with his family, was ordered out of the "Southermost Schoolhouse." In 1746, Sarah Strange, whose husband was killed at Cape Breton, was also ordered out of that house.

At a Town Meeting held in March 1722, it was voted to build a schoolhouse, sixteen feet square and six and a half foot stud, with a stone chimney. For this building a piece of land, twenty feet square, was purchased of Stephen Brayton, on what was formerly Gatchel's Land. This was on the East Road, a little south of Park Avenue.

At the same meeting it was voted to build another schoolhouse, thirty feet in length, twenty feet in breadth and eight feet stud, with a stone chimney. This house was built on the southwest corner of Hedley Street and the West Road. This building was also used as the first Town House. It was rebuilt in 1788, the old one probably being burned by the British.

In 1728, a petition from inhabitants of the southern part of the town was received, asking for the town to help in building a schoolhouse on land given by William Brown. The Town gave thirty pounds towards the building, the petitioners having to raise the rest. This was afterwards called the Vaucluse School.

In 1746, a small piece of land on the East Road, just north of Dexter Street, was purchased of David Earl, and a schoolhouse was built on it.

In 1763, it was voted to give the inhabitants five hundred pounds for a schoolhouse on Prudence Island, "when they shall produce a deed for a piece of land for the same."

Highways

Nearly all the highways of Portsmouth, with the exception of the Turnpike, are as originally laid out. Some of the small ones of today being cut through as the land was cut up for house lots.

The first list of these highways, with their width, was made in 1662. No name was given to any of these roads, it being merely stated as "the highway between William Cadmans and Nicholas Browns is 4 rods" (now Hedley Street). In all there were thirty-four roads in this list, and the swamp, which "is 25 rodd wide at the end towards the pond, about 33 rodd in the middle and 11 rodd at the end by Mr Briggs."

In 1717 another list of highways, with their width, was made, in which the variations in width is noted. This list consisted of but twenty-six roads, but referred to the plat of South Side for the highways and lanes in that place. No names were given to any of these roads, with the exception of the East and West Roads, which were called "The King's High Rode on the East side of the Island" and "The Kings High Rode on the West side of the Island."

In this list it is stated "The Plat or Piece of land with the Spring undisposed of in the Town Swamp, is left open or Public place for the washing of sheep and also a watering place for the use and benefit of the Town."

In this list mention is made of the "Great Rock on the high way that leads from the division line (Wapping Road) so north by Thomas Cornells to the north east corner of Latham Clarkes 3 rods in breadth."

In 1731, a committee was named to inspect all highways of Portsmouth and make a report on all "Trespasses, Nuisances and Intrusions that are committed on ye highways, watering places and General Priviledges." In the list this committee submitted, no roads were named, but merely the names of the abutters. It was shown that there were trespasses on nearly every road in the town.

Although no highways were named in the above lists, with the exception of the main roads, it seems strange that in each of these lists, what we now call Boyd's Lane, was always spoken of as "ye Stony Lane."

A Quiet Spot at Founder's Brook

Stepping Stones to Pudding Rock

Streams and Swamps

The first stream mentioned in the records was called the "First Brook," where in 1640, James Badcock, Robert Ballou and Thomas Fish were all granted land. In 1665, in a deed from Jacob Cole to Richard Pearce, it is called "Little Silver." The swamp that this stream drained, was cut into six shares and granted to six men, it being called for many years "Little Silver Swamp." To me the name is much more colorful than the name of today, "Willow Brook."

The next stream mentioned was the Mill River, or Two Mill River. This started at the top of Quaker Hill, west of the Meeting House, and draining the "Mill Swamp," crossed the West Road and ran into Freeborn's Creek. Part of the Battle of Rhode Island was fought near this stream, and after the war it was called "Bloody Run Brook."

It was on this stream that land was granted in 1642, to James Sands, for a sawmill. This mill was purchased by William Freeborn in 1655, and remained in the Freeborn family for many years. It was still running in 1800 but was then a grist mill. John Tyler also had a mill on this stream. At one time there was a mill dam behind the Quaker Meeting House.

The stream running through the Glen had on it a grist mill built by Giles Slocum. After Joseph Cundall bought this land he built a fulling mill.

Wading River was mentioned many times in the records, being the stream that drained the "Hunting Swamp" and the "Round Swamp" and running through Lawton's Valley into the Bay. George Lawton had one of the early grist mills on this stream, and later Robert Lawton had a fulling mill on Union Street, near the bridge.

Besides the swamps already mentioned there was "Long Swamp" lying between Wapping Road and the West Road, and

north of Braman's Lane. At Mint Water Brook, west of the West Road, was "Briggs Swamp."

North of School House Lane is a swamp mentioned many times in the records, as it seemed to be a sort of a landmark. This was called in nearly every case "Solentary Hole," which name describes it perfectly. It was granted to Philip Sherman in 1694, who sold it to Joseph Sheffield, who turned it back to the town in exchange for land next his farm.

The pond at the foot of Park Avenue has generally been called by the name of the man who owned land around it. It was first called "Gatchells Pond," then "Tallmans Pond," and finally "Scotts Pond."

The "Town Pond" was at first called merely "The Pond."

The Government

Just when the town voted to have a council is unknown, owing to the condition of the first part of the First Book, but in 1649 there is a fragment of a record mentioning the Town Council. This was kept up until the time of Governor Andross.

On the 21st of May 1688, a Town Meeting was held at the home of Richard Cadman, to elect a new town government, by order of Governor Andross. This order called for the inhabitants of each town "to assemble on the 3rd Monday in May, yearly, and to draw an even number of fitt persons, not exceeding eight, as Selectmen." Half of these men were for one year and the other half two years. At this meeting six men were chosen as Selectmen.

Evidently the people of Portsmouth did not take to this new idea for no sooner had Andross lost his power than men began to talk about going back to their old form of government.

On the 2nd of June 1690, the inhabitants elected six men as Town Council, and so it has remained ever since, except that there are now five members of the council.

Prisons and Punishments

As early as September 1638, steps were taken for the punishment of evildoers, and stocks and a whipping post were ordered made. Three days later it was ordered to build a "Howse for a prison."

In the following November, Henry Bull was chosen Sergeant and keeper of the prison.

In 1654, another order for a prison was made, as well as a "doppinge stool" at the pond.

In 1657, William Baulston, treasurer, was ordered to pay John Room thirty shillings for the stocks and whipping post, and in 1665, it was ordered "a sufficient Cagge be made."

It would seem as if the whipping post was used as much as any means of punishment. In a great many cases if the culprits did not pay their fine they were to be whipped. In one case there is a record of a man working off his fine by whipping a thief.

I have found no record of any hanging occuring in Portsmouth, that penalty was generally paid in Newport, where the later court was held.

In 1727, an Indian named Peter, belonging to Jacob Mott, was branded on the forehead with a letter R, and whipped through the public streets of Newport, at a cart's tail. This was because Peter had "maliciously endeavored to murder his master by discharging at him a gun, loaded with a bullet and sundry shot, shooting him through the hat, so that it was an extraordinary act of Providence said Mott was not killed."

In 1712, John Slocum, an Indian belonging to Giles Slocum, murdered two small sons of Giles Slocum, and was hung at Newport. The body was placed in chains to stay "till it be Consumned, as a moral to all Such evildoers."

We should not forget the case of Rebecca Cornell, who was burned to death in 1673. Her son, Thomas Cornell, was found guilty of murdering his mother, principally on the testimony of

John Briggs, brother of Rebecca, who claimed that his sister had appeared to him in a dream, shown him her burns, and accused son Thomas of causing her death. As all testimony is in the court records, no one now believes, on reading it, that Thomas was guilty, but that his mother had set herself on fire with her pipe. However, the Court found him guilty, and Thomas Cornell was hanged.

The Quakers

According to the Quaker records the first meeting was held at the house of Joshua Coggeshall. Later these meetings were held at the house of Matthew Borden, where they were held until they acquired a regular meeting house.

In 1691 the people began to talk about having a meeting house in Portsmouth.

At a meeting held at the house of John Easton, in Newport, in 1692, Robert Hodgson agreed to sell a piece of land two and one-half rods wide and six rods long, with a stone house upon it. Matthew Borden and Thomas Cornell were appointed to receive a collection by subscription, and to repair the house and finish it decently for a meeting house. This house was on the south side of Hedley Street, not very far from the West Road.

The first meeting was held in this meeting house 3rd, 1st month 1692-1693. In 1698, Matthew Borden and Abraham Anthony were appointed to repair the meeting house and burial yard at Portsmouth.

At the monthly meeting held at Newport 7th, 12th month 1698-1699 it was proposed to have a meeting house built at Portsmouth. Matthew Borden, Gideon Freeborn, John Borden and Abraham Anthony were appointed to build it.

At a monthly meeting held at Portsmouth 9th, 11th month 1699. "Whereas there is a ( ) of the disposition of the land where the old meeting house is at Portsmouth, Friends have let it to the Friends concerned in building a new meeting house."

"30th, 2nd month 1700. The Friends chosen to dispose of the

old meeting house at Portsmouth, return that they expected Joseph Morey will buy it if he can have a deed made secure to him."

"28th of the 2nd month 1702. At a monthly meeting at our new meeting house. This is the first recorded meeting to be held in this meeting house."

This land, originally granted to William Cadman, was acquired by Robert Fish, and although the meeting house was built in 1700, or thereabouts, Robert Fish did not give a deed to the land until 1708.

Strangers

Through fear of being obliged to support them, strangers were made the subject of early laws by the town. In 1654 it was ordered "that no Inhabitant shall intertain any sojorner above one month without the aprobation of the Towne."

6 October 1658 it is ordered "that Roger Williams shall have liberty of the Towne for to live with William Woddel house till the 5th of November in-seuen the date here of; and no longer by the Town order."

In 1671 orders were given to the inhabitants of Prudence and Patience Islands not to harbor strangers, without the consent of the Town.

After a while a person coming into town was required to give bond, or, failing to do this, bring a certificate from his last legal place of abode, stating that the town would take him back in time of need. If he did neither he was warned out of town, and then if he persisted in staying, he was carried out by the town sergeant, under penalty of being whipped if he returned.

The case of Maurice Mackenny alias Mohonney, is a very interesting one.

In February of 1731 the clerk was ordered to issue a warrant for the removal of Maurice Mackenny out of this Town. In the following June another warrant was issued for the removal of one

Maurice Mackenny, an Irishman, who now resides at Thomas Borden's.

In April of 1732 Maurice Mackenny alias Mohonney was to appear before the Town Council, when he declared that he had left Ireland nine years previous, landed at Boston, and had then coasted to Maine. He was ordered to depart the town or else be proceeded with according to law.

In May the clerk was ordered to issue a warrant to apprehend the said Mackenny in order that he suffer the penalty of returning, and that he be assessed a fine of forty shillings "or suffer Corporal punishment by being whipt thirty Stripes well laid on his naked back."

This is the last record of the case in the book, but a letter to the Town Council from Samuel Little of Bristol throws much light on the subject, as he said that Maurice Mohonney had been working for him, since being warned out of Portsmouth, and was engaged in helping run the ferry and sometimes helped Thomas Borden as Borden helped Samuel Little.

Samuel Little also went to Governor William Wanton explaining things as they were, and the Governor wrote to the Town Council of Portsmouth, saying "and he now coming from Bristol in the Ferry Boat and acting as a ferry man in the service of sed Little Do think and Judge that it cannot be looked upon as contempt of your Authority in his Service as above, and that you had ought to release him and set him at his liberty in order to mind his Masters business without your Punishment."

There are many instances of the town sergeant taking whole families and delivering them to the Tiverton authorities because they could not give bond, and in some cases, a married daughter, with her child, would have to give bond if she came back to live in her father's house.

The Poor

The records contain a great deal about "The Poor of the Town," as well as ridding themselves of those who did not belong there.

If a man, or family, had a legal residence there, he was helped, otherwise he, or they, were sent to their last legal abode.

To John Mott belongs the honor (or otherwise) of being the first pauper of Portsmouth. On coming to Portsmouth he bought a house lot for six shillings (a very good investment, for in 1644 he was given help by the town). In 1648 it was concluded that "ould John Mott" be provided with meat, drink, lodging, and washing by George Parker, at the town's expense, while in 1652 it was ordered to build a stone house for the "more Comfortable beinge of ould John Mott."

In 1654 it was agreed to pay his passage to "Barbadoes Island and back again if he can not be received there, if he lived to it, if the Shipp owner will carrie him." Evidently this did not work out as he is again in the records of 1656.

Probably the most peculiar case was that of Daniel Chubb. In 1744 Sergeant Caleb Bennet warned Daniel Chubb, then living on Prudence Island, "to depart this Town."

He was again warned out in 1746, and in 1747 the Town Council ordered Sergeant Bennet to take Daniel Chubb into custody and to remove him to Warwick. The Town of Warwick promptly sent him back, by their Constable John Greene, as they claimed he never had a legal place of residence in that town.

In his examination Chubb confessed that Pawtuxet was his last lawful residence, so Portsmouth sent him to Providence.

In his examination in Providence he said he was hired by Gideon Freeborn, Jr., to keep school for him at his house on Prudence Island, and that he had lived there "upwards of two years." Whereupon Providence sent him back to Portsmouth.

After this Portsmouth decided that it would be less trouble to

keep him, and various records show how he was provided for, the last item being dated 9 October 1749 when he was provided with "a shirt."

The Poor

James Preston, another school master, and his family, came under the care of the Town. In 1727 he became sick and helpless and various records show how he was helped, as well as his wife, who had a child in 1728. That same year the council clerk was ordered to write to Joseph Stafford, of Tiverton, to return the "navigating instrument which he had of James Preston," one of the poor of the town.

In 1728 as James Strange refused to entertain the Preston family any longer, they were given permission to live in the cellar part of the Southermost school house. The following year they were ordered out of the school house and in 1730 James Preston died.

In 1744 eight books formerly belonging to James Preston, being mostly books on Navigation, were sold to Joseph Stafford of Tiverton.

In 1660, William Baulston who had owned land, but sold it in 1658, petitioned the town to take his sheep, as their own, so that they could contribute "to his necessitie for that his own abillety failes him." The town did so and he was kept by Henry Percy. In May 1662 John Tefft and William Bailey were satisfied with part of William Baulston's clothes "for watchinge with William Baulston at the time of his sickness."

The Work House

At a Town Council meeting held 19 June 1780 it was agreed to buy a Barrack (probably one left by the British) of John Earl. Capt. Alexander Thomas was to pull it down and set it up on Windmill Hill, for the use of a Work House.

The sequel to this agreement was probably told at the Town Council meeting of October 19, 1780, when Capt. Thomas was authorized to inquire into the authority of the Officer or Officers who pulled down the Barrack that belonged to the Town, "and to take the best method he can to get pay for the same."

There is no record of how Capt. Thomas made out.

Peculiar Record

Probably the most peculiar record in any Town's papers is to be found in a loose paper in the Town's Scrap Book.

A certain lady, who was troubled by fitts, made a list of them from day to day, to be given to her husband after she had passed away. The last entry is in different handwriting and states that the lady died in a fitt. Whether the husband ever saw the paper and how it got in with the town's papers is unknown.

The War of the Revolution

"On Sunday ye 8th Day of December A. D. 1776 About Eight Thousand Troops landed and took possession of the Island and Remained until Monday the 25th Day of October A. D. 1779, for which time the Inhabitants were greatly Opressed."

These words written in both the Town Meeting and Town Council books, tell part of the story of the occupation of Rhode Island by the British troops.

The inhabitants of the Island did not support any of the towns in their preparations for trouble, for committees were formed early to enlist men.

By pension applications we learn that Captain Jonathan Brownell raised and organized a troop for the defense of the Island, and that the troop marched to the Battle of Bunker Hill. Jonathan Brownell, who was a Quaker, was dismissed from the Society for his service. After the British took possession of the Island, he went to Providence and was taken with small-pox. For this he had a bill,

for care and medicines, for over twenty-six pounds. When he recovered he worked off nineteen pounds of this bill by "doing Military Duty in Room of Moses Brown who refused."

A committee was appointed in February 1776 to build a fort at Bristol Ferry. After the British landed they took possession of and rebuilt this fort, the plans of which are still in existence.

Of course the records of the town give very little detail, and little information aside from the committees to enlist men, and the names of these enlisted men are not given. For more information we must look elsewhere, and fortunately there are several diaries, among them is one kept by a British officer. There is also a map made by the British engineers which shows the houses burned or pulled down by the soldiers. By this map it would seem as if there were about twenty-five houses destroyed. A copy of this map is in the Portsmouth Library.

By the time the British troops had landed on the Island, the inhabitants had driven most of the live stock to the main land, although there was still considerable left. In time this was taken for the soldiers, and some of it was paid for. Job Dennis in his diary says on the first of August 1778 "William Cresson came and broke my tools that I work in the shop with, and they carried away six cows and two horses, and they left one cow and two calfs, that were in the cellar."

Even before the troops landed, Captain Wallace sailed up and down the bay, taking live stock. A deposition made by Thomas Durfee, in regards to a pension claim, throws some light on this. He says: "I Reccolect that old Wallace took off of Hog Island, then improved by my father, seven fat oxen, and never paid for them, and he was doing some sort of mischief all the time."

Frederick MacKenzie, a British officer, says in his diary, "The inhabitants of the Island, being principally Quakers, are exceedingly alarmed at the appearance of the Hessian troops, are under great dread of them."

One of the first engagements on the Island took place on the night of June 9, 1777. About fifty Provincials, from Tiverton, landed on the shore of Sanford's Cove and advanced on a small guard house, just south of the present Luther Chase house. They managed to get within sixty feet of this post before they were discovered, and fired on the guard, killing one man and mortally wounding two others. The Provincials then retreated to their boats and escaped safely.

On the night of July 10, 1777, Colonel Barton made his famous capture of General Prescott. MacKenzie, in his diary, says that it was executed in a masterly manner, and "It is certainly a most extraordinary circumstance, that a General commanding a body of 4000 men, encampt on an Island surrounded by a Squadron of Ships of war, should be carried off from his quarters in the night by a small party of the Enemy from without, and without a shot being fired."

On September 4th, the boats from the Juno were sent to the north end of Prudence for water. They were met by about a hundred Provincials who had gathered there, and who killed two of the sailors, wounded another, and took several prisoners, after which they escaped. It is very possible that more of this story is told by a broken grave stone in the old Brownell cemetery near the Coal Mines.

"— — Brooking, son of — — Brooking, Master of his Maj. Ship Juno, who departed this Life Sept. 19, 1777, Aged 14 years." Perhaps this young boy was with the sailors, and was wounded.

The British and Hessians had been engaged in building many forts and redoubts on the Island. Besides rebuilding the fort at Bristol Ferry, one was built on the William Anthony farm, one on the Luther Chase farm, one on Quaker Hill, one at Fogland Ferry, one on Turkey Hill, and the largest of all on Butts, or Windmill Hill. In order to hasten the work, all the inhabitants of Portsmouth were ordered to work on them, commencing Sep-

tember 15th. But only seventeen men appeared. As the majority of the inhabitants were Quakers (according to MacKenzie) they refused to assist in any matter pertaining to war. They even refused to assist in building barracks for the soldiers.

The British did not try to fortify Common Fence Point, and it was a source of great trouble to them. The Provincials frequently landed there, from Tiverton, and bothered them greatly. Also this was a place where the deserters, mostly Hessians, fled, and were taken off by boats from Tiverton. Mackenzie tells of a great many cases of desertion.

The fire wood question was quite a problem for the British. There were many vessels bringing wood from Long Island, and they used many of the Newport buildings and wharves, but they also cut all the trees on the Island, at one time there being piled on the Luther Chase farm, one hundred and fifty cords of wood.

MacKenzie speaks of cutting the apple trees in the Hick's orchard (now the site of the Golf Club) and Sanford's orchard (now the site of the Hathaway peach orchard). Some of these trees were used as entanglements around the Town Pond and across the Neck.

The account of the Battle of Rhode Island has been written many times, hence we will not give it here. It was the effect of this battle on the British troops that caused the greatest suffering on the part of the inhabitants of Portsmouth. The troops were almost out of control, and pillage and destruction were everywhere. Fleet Green in his diary says "some of the inhabitants do not have a bed to sleep on." Mackenzie says, "The excesses which have been committed on the Island by all the troops, since the 29th of August, have been very great, and have thrown great disgrace on our arms."

After the British had left the Island, we find more records of the enlisting of men, and the borrowing of money to pay them with.

There was much feeling against the Tories, and after the war the Deputies were instructed to see that the land of the Tories (which had been confiscated) was not returned to them.

In 1784 there was much feeling in Portsmouth about the size of the State tax that had been levied against them. A petition was sent to the General Assembly showing how the orchards had been cut down, the houses burned or pulled down, and the fences burned. As all the trees had been cut, they were without fuel, and it took about six thousand dollars annually, spent outside the town, to keep them supplied with fire wood.

By the list of losses sent to the General Assembly, it is shown that by the usual prosecution of war the loss had been 3,700½ pounds, while by wanton destruction the loss had been 157,684¾ pounds.

The Gold Mine

In the "Providence Town Papers" is a declaration made at the March 1649 meeting of the General Assembly, held at Portsmouth, which contained a proclamation regarding a "Gold Mine" found on the Island. Just where this mine was located I have been unable to find out, but it must have been near the water. Probably the finders were disappointed when they found their ore was valueless.

"For as much as there is a Generall bruitt noysed throught the Colonie of ye Country Scituated in this parts of America of a mine Discovered within ye Jurisdiction and province of Providence Plantations which is Suggested to be GOLD, ye Generall assembly of ye said Colnie being Assembled att Portsmouth on ye tenth day of October Ano Dom 1649, taking it into Serious Consideration and having weighed ye Circumstances and finding Probability of ye truth thereof and Knowing that by the Law of Nations it is ye Royaltie of ye Crowne and State of England, have thiught fitt for ye Same and Power thereof, and doe according to ye Royalty of ye said Dignity, take Possession of ye said cave, and

all other Royal mines, which are or may be found within ye Jurisdiction Consigned by ye Right Hon'ble ye Earle of warwicke and ye rest of ye hon'ble Commissioner unto Providence Plantations, for ye end, it, or any other mine of Like quality shall be Discovered hereafter may be, and is, for ye use and disposure of ye Royal State Crowne and Dignitee of England:

"We doe therefore by these Presents, Command and Require all Nations, People and languages, by vertue & power of ye Authority abovesaid, upon Penaltie of ye offences ordained by ye Royal State in ye case provided, to forebeare to take away or imbezle any parte or parts thereof whatsoever, either directly or indirectly except by Joint Consent of our Colonie for ye further Trials and use of ye said State of England, untill ye said State of England shall give further order therein: And we doe absolutely forbid any vessel to rid near unto ye said place, or if throw Ignorance any shall happen to dropp their Anchor neare unto ye place where any such mine is, or hereafter shall be discovered, if upon warning given they remove not, ye vessel and goods shall be Confiscated to the Colonie and ye master of ye sd vessell to be made prisoner to answer his Contempt:

"And further we doe proclaim by vertue of ye power and Authority abovesd that if any pirson or pirsons within our Jurisdiction hath at any time heretofore Imbezled ye sd cave and Concealed it after ye Knowledge of ittsoe to be a mine Royal, and it be found against them, Then ye Pirson soe Charged and convict shall be Lyable to ye Censure of ye next Generall Court ensuing, they to receive condigne punishment according to ye nature of such high Contempt or neglect:

"So that it may appeare to all men that ye Care in the matter of ye Right and honour of ye noble State hath been declared in a Legall way, we have with power of ye abovesd Honored state, Instituted a public officer viz mr wm Dyer, whom we have ordained instead of a Herald at Armes and by him have solemly in

ye face of ye Generall assembly above mentioned made proclamation, as abovesd upon ye place where ye mine is discovered—he taking in ye presence of ye Sd assembly a certaine persell of ye cave into his Custodie as a Signe and Pledge of ye Honorable right which ye sd state of ould England hath to ye above sd Royall mine, which is further Solemnised by Siting upon ye place ye Armes of ye Crowne of England, together with ye Armes of ye Ld High Admiral, our noble Governor in Chief, and have underneath afixed ye Seale of ye Colonie "

Given ay ye Gen: Assembly held at Portsmouth
ye tenth of March Ano 1648

John Warner Clk

In closing I think it would be fitting to read the description of the Island written by Frederick MacKenzie, a British officer. He writes in his diary on the 16th of December 1776, as follows:

"There is a hill about 7 miles from Newport, and on the Eastern side of the Island, called Quaker Hill (from there being a Quaker's meeting house on it) from whence there is a very fine view of all the North part of the Island, and of the adjacent Islands, and the Continent for many miles. The many fine and well cultivated Islands, and the beautiful bays and inlets, with the distant view of the towns, farms and cultivated lands intermixed with woods, together with the many fine views of the adjacent waters, contribute to make this (even at this bleak season of the year) the finest, most diversified, and extensive prospect I have seen in America. The Shipe of War that are stationed in the different passages to watch the motions of the enemy, are in such position as to make it appear as if they were placed there only to add to the beauty of the picture. In the beginning of summer this must be a delightful view, and I should think hardly to be equalled in America or any country."

The early inhabitants of Portsmouth will now be shown, with the location of their lands.

The Inhabitants

William Coddington

Was born about 1610 in Boston, Lincoln County, England. He married, first, Mary Moseley, and second, Anne Brinley. Arriving in Boston, Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1630 he soon took public office, serving as assistant until 1637, also serving as Town Treasurer for three years. He was probably the richest and one of the smartest of the signers of the Compact, as can be seen from records. After leaving Portsmouth he was made Judge of the Newport Colony, and 1648-1649 he was President of the whole Colony, and was elected Governor of the Colony for the years 1674-1675-1676-1678, his death occurred in 1708.

There are no definite bounds of his land, but it was probably between the Town Pond and Sanford's Cove, and when he left Portsmouth it is probable that he did not take the trouble to sell the land.

John Clarke

Was born in Westhorpe, Suffolk County, England, in 1609, arriving in Boston in 1637. He tells us that he was much surprised at the way the Church and Government tried to suppress all religious beliefs differing from their own. It would seem as if he soon joined the followers of Anne Hutchinson, for he was one of the committee sent out to find a site for the new Colony. According to his own story they left the ship at Cape Cod and went over-land to Providence, not to consult with Roger Williams, for they intended to go to Long Island or Delaware. On meeting Roger Williams he told them of Sowams (which they found was part of the Plymouth Colony Patent) and Aquidneck. This was the spot chosen for the new Colony, and with the help of Roger Williams who was always a friend of the Indians and spoke their language, the Island was purchased.

At the time of the separation John Clarke went to Newport, and later started a Baptist Church there. Although John Clarke

Pudding Rock

Memorial Tablet on Pudding Rock

had three wives he left no descendants, since his only child, a daughter, died at less than one year of age.

The location of his land in Portsmouth is very uncertain, as all that can be found in the records is that it was next to Mr. Coddington's.

The Hutchinsons

William Hutchinson and wife Anne arrived in Boston. He was made a Judge in 1635 and Deputy in 1636. At the time of the separation he was made Judge of Portsmouth. His death occurred in 1642 and shortly after that his wife Anne left with all her younger children for some place near New Rochelle, where they were killed by the Indians.

Edward Hutchinson, Jr.

Son of William and Anne Hutchinson did not stay in Portsmouth very long, but returned to England. He came back, however, to Massachusetts where he was welcomed. He was appointed Commander of a large Corps of Cavalry in King Philips war and was killed in 1675.

Edward Hutchinson, Sr.

Brother of William did not stay in Portsmouth, but returned to England.

The land of William Hutchinson is not easy to locate, but he had a grant with one end butting Sanford's Cove. There was another tract on the other side of the neck butting on the bay. Edward, Sr., and Edward, Jr. had grants near William Hutchinson's on the neck.

John Coggeshall

Born about 1601, Halstead, Essex County, England. Came to Boston in 1632, on the ship Lyon. He was a deacon of the Church in Boston, Selectman and a Deputy to the General Court. He went to Newport at the time of the separation and received a large grant of land there. In 1647 he was elected the first President of the

Colony under the Charter that Roger Williams had procured. He died while in office.

His land was probably along the road that we now call Anthony's Road about where the Montaup Golf Club is now situated. John Coggeshall's second son, Joshua, returned to Portsmouth and owned land near the Middletown line on the West Road.

William Baulston

Born about 1600, was made a Freeman of Boston in 1630. In 1634 he was made a Sergeant and in 1637 was granted a license to run a house of entertainment.

In Portsmouth he was granted a license for a house of entertainment which he ran for many years. Always interested in public affairs he was made a Sergeant of the Train Band, Treasurer for Portsmouth and Newport, Assistant for twenty-two years, and many other offices. He died in 1667.

William Baulston's Tavern was opposite the Watering Place, and "Founders Brook" runs through his land on the way to the pond. His farm, 240 acres, was on the west side of the Island, where the Coaling Station is located.

Henry Bull

Arrived at Boston in 1635 on ship James, from London. Joined the church in Roxbury in 1636.

Held position of Sergeant in Portsmouth and Newport. Deputy for eight years and Governor for three years. He died in 1694, the last of the original settlers of Newport.

The only land of his that can be located is a meadow lot on the west side of the Town Pond.

Randall Holden

Came from Salisbury, Wilts County, England. There is no record of him in Boston. He was disfranchised in 1641 and was threatened with arrest if he came on the Island armed. He was one

of the original settlers of Warwick and held many positions of trust. He, with other Warwick settlers, was taken by soldiers to Boston, where he was charged with heresy and was imprisoned in Salem. He died in 1692.

He had a small lot of land near the Golf Club in Portsmouth and had a farm east of William Freeborn's.

Philip Sherman

Born 1610 in Dedham, Essex County, England, married Sarah Porter. He came to Massachusetts in 1633 and was made a Freeman in 1634.

In Portsmouth he held several offices and was General Recorder of the Colony 1648-1651. He died in 1687.

Philip Sherman's house lot was on the West Road about half way between Boyd's Lane and Sprague Street. His farm was on the East Road just north of a brook, which was made a watering place, the short road to it is still there. He also owned a lot on the west side of the road at Mint Water Brook.

John Walker

Freeman of Boston in 1634 held no public office in Portsmouth and died in 1671.

John Walker's land was north of Freeborns Creek, on the west side of the Island. He also owned a small plot in the Calfs Pasture, now part of the Hathaway Peach Orchards.

Richard Carder

He was admitted Freeman in Boston 1636, after coming to Portsmouth, he was disfranchised in 1641 and in the following year it was ordered that if he came on the Island he was to be arrested. That same year he was one of the granters of the Town of Warwick.

His land in Portsmouth was north of the Coal Mines, about where the Weyhauser Lumber Co. stands. His house lot cannot be located.

William Aspinwall

Came over with Winthrop, and was made a Freeman at Boston in 1632. He removed from Portsmouth to New Haven, where he lived in 1641-1642. In 1643 he again returned to Boston. He was a Recorder and Notary. He was granted one hundred acres at Sandy Point, and after he left, this land was granted to one of the Edward Hutchinsons.

Samuel Wilbore

Made a Freeman at Boston in 1633 and Assessor in 1634. Came to Portsmouth with the first settlers and was Constable in 1639 and Sergeant in 1644.

Samuel Wilbore's house lot was east of the Baulston Tavern, and he had also a share in the Long Meadow, south of the Mount Hope Bridge. The land on the corner of Sandy Point Avenue and Wapping Road, sixty acres, was granted to Samuel Wilbore, and he gave it to his daughter, the wife of Latham Clarke.

He was also granted a small point of land running into Sanfords Cove. He returned to Boston in 1645 and died in Taunton, Massachusetts.

John Porter

Was made a Freeman at Boston in 1633. He came to Portsmouth with the others and stayed until 1665 when he moved to Kingston, where he died after 1674.

John Porter owned land at what was called the Round Meadow, near the place that Willow Brook runs into the Bay. He also owned about one hundred acres on the West Road, west of Mill Lane and Locust Avenue.

John Sanford

Was made a Freeman of Boston in 1632, and was a Commander at the Fort for several years. He was one of the first men here and held many offices in the Town and Colony, being President of the Island when he died in 1653. He left a large family of children.

His land was on the east side of the road to Common Fence Point, opposite the land of William Brenton. He also owned the farm at Black Point.

Thomas Savage

Born in Taunton, Somerset County, England, came to Boston in 1635, on the ship Planter. He was Captain of Artillery in 1651 and had command of a force during King Philip's War. By trade he was a tailor. It is very probable that he never came to Portsmouth at all.

William Dyer

Came to Boston from England in 1635. He was the first Secretary or Clerk of Portsmouth, but went to Newport at the time of the separation. He was the Town Clerk of Newport for a number of years, and was for four years Attorney General of this Colony and General Solicitor for three years. He also served as Commissioner and Assistant. He died in 1667.

Aside from Dyer's Island, no trace of his land is to be found in Portsmouth. Mention must be made of William Dyer's wife Mary, who was a staunch Quaker, although warned not to return to Boston, she nevertheless did so, and was eventually hanged on Boston Common.

William Freeborn

Arrived at Boston in 1634, on the ship Francis, from Ipswich, England. He was here in 1638, made Freeman in 1641, and served as a Constable and Commissioner. His son Gideon served as Deputy for five terms.

The farm of William Freeborn was on the west side of the Island, where the Priory School now stands. He also owned land on Wapping Road between Braman's Lane and Sandy Point Avenue, and a meadow through which the new road, a continuation of Boyd's Lane, runs on the east side of Anthony Road.

William Hall

One of the Signers of the Compact who seemed to be scratched off, but who came to Portsmouth in August 1638, was made a Freeman in that year. He served as Commissioner for four years, and as Deputy for six years. Just before his death, in 1673, he was on a committee to treat with the Indians about drunkenness. Many of his descendants have always lived in Portsmouth.

His land was on the east side of the West Road between Freeborn Street and Hedley Street. He also had land on the Middle Road, between Hedley Street and Mill Lane.

Adam Mott

Arrived in Boston in 1635 on ship Defiance. He was made a Freeman of Roxbury in 1636 and lived for a while in Hingham.

He was granted a lot on the west side of the Spring in 1638 and his farm was on the West Road, south of Cory's Lane. He also had a lot of land in the Calf's Pasture.

William Brenton

Born in Hammersmith, Middlesex County, England, was made Freeman at Boston in 1634, and held office as Selectman and Deputy while there.

Although not one of the Signers, he was an early inhabitant of Portsmouth, being admitted as Freeman at the fourth meeting in 1638. He went to Newport at the time of separation and was twice elected Deputy Governor of the Island.

He lived at Taunton for a while, but died in Newport in 1674. Besides his house lot near the Town Pond, he owned two house lots at the head of Park Avenue. His farm of 240 acres, called Middleford Farm, was on the east side of the Island. What we now call Glen Street was the approach to it, and by the 1662 list of highways was twenty rods wide. He was also granted Common Fence Point.

Richard Borden

Born 1601, died 1671, although not a Signer, was admitted Freeman in 1638. He served as Assistant, General Treasurer and Commissioner. His son Matthew, born in May 1638, was the first English child born in Portsmouth. This son Matthew always lived in Portsmouth.

Richard Borden lived on his land on the north side of Stoney Lane. He owned the farm, about 175 acres, at what we now call McCorrie's Point. He also owned land south of the Bristol Ferry called the South Land. This latter land was where John Borden lived and his ferry ran from here.

Ralph Earl

Although not a Signer, was in Portsmouth in 1639. He acquired much land, one of his grants, forty acres, being bounded on the north by Cory's Lane. This land, as late as 1854, was known as Earle's Field. He acquired many of the house lots, especially around Bristol Ferry.

Nicholas Brown

He too was not a Signer, but was made a Freeman in 1638. His house lot is now known as the "Fishermans Lot" on Anthony Road. He also owned land south of Church Lane, as well as land on the southwest corner of Hedley Street. A lot of about six acres on the south side of Hedley Street, at the brook, was also granted him. In 1657 he had a grant on the east side of Jepson Lane.

Thomas Hazard

Although he was early in Portsmouth, he went to Newport, and was not made a Freeman of Portsmouth until 1655. He owned land on the west side of the Island, part of which is the Poor Farm.

Thomas Cornell

Was licensed to keep an Inn in Boston in 1638, and came to Portsmouth about 1641. He served as Commissioner for one year, and died in 1657.

He had a small tract on Common Fence Point, another on the East Road, south of Richard Borden's, but his large tract was south of the Wading River, part of it being what we now call Lawton's Valley, a piece of which is still owned by a descendant. His widow was granted land north of Union Street.

William Cory

Was admitted a Freeman in 1655, although he was here much earlier. He served as Deputy for three years and died in 1681.

He was granted a lot of land running along the west side of the West Road north from Cory's Lane. His other land he purchased.

Thomas Durfee

An early settler, was granted land both north and south of Coal Mine Lane. All his other land was purchased.

Thomas Fish

Was here before 1643, when he was granted a house lot north of John Albro's. He served on the Town Council one year. He was also granted a swamp lot at Little Silver. His sons were granted several lots in the later division.

John Tripp

Admitted in 1638, served as Commissioner for one year and Assistant for four years. He ran a ferry to Bristol.

He was granted land on the west side of the West Road, and a lot adjoining the line on the east side of the Jepson Lane. His other lands he purchased.

George Lawton

He was admitted an inhabitant in 1638, and served as Deputy for six years, and as Assistant nine years besides serving on numerous committees.

He was granted a small piece of land for a mill, on the Wading River, but had a large tract on the east side of the road, opposite his mill.

Thomas Lawton

Probably came to Portsmouth with his brother, George, but did not hold many public offices. He was Deputy one year and Commissioner for four years. Thomas Lawton was granted land near the top of Quaker Hill, and land south of Union Street. He acquired much of the land south of Union Street, which he called "Hunting Swamp Farm."

Richard Sisson

Did not come to Portsmouth until 1663. In 1667 he was in Dartmouth, where he stayed for the rest of his life. His son, George Sisson, returned to Portsmouth in 1672, where he served as Deputy for four years.

Richard Sisson was granted a lot of land on the East Road, part of which is the south part of Oakland Farm. George Sisson was granted land on the East Road north of Union Street.

John Albro

Born 1617, arrived in Boston on the ship Francis in care of William Freeborn, whom he accompanied to Portsmouth. Was Commissioner two years, Assistant twelve years and served on numerous committees.

He had two house lots not far from Sprague Street, land south of Locust Avenue and land on the north side of Union Street.

William Almy

Born 1601, lived in Lynn, returned to England and came back in 1635, living in Sandwich. He came to Portsmouth in 1643, and served as Commissioner for three years, died in 1676.

Had a small grant on Hummock Point, and a farm south of Philip Sherman on the east side of the East Road.

Frances Brayton

Born 1612, received as an inhabitant of Portsmouth in 1640, served as Commissioner one year and Deputy five years.

He was granted land on the north side of Locust Avenue, and a lot on the north side of Union Street. All of his other land he purchased.

John Briggs

Born 1609, died 1690, admitted as an inhabitant of Portsmouth in 1640.

His house lot was on the west side of the East Road at the head of the Brook or Spring. He was also granted land north of Union Street at the Round Swamp. He purchased other land.

Richard Bulgar

Born 1608, died about 1687, came to Roxbury about 1631. It is not known just when he arrived in Portsmouth, but it was prior to 1646. He served as Commissioner and was General Solicitor for three years, besides being Town Clerk. In 1686 he made over his land to the Town, for his maintenance for life. His wife was killed by a drunken Indian in 1671. His land was at the Hummock.

John Anthony

Was made a Freeman in 1640, was Corporal of the Militia in 1644, and was given leave to keep a Tavern in 1655. He served as Deputy for two years.

He was granted land on the West Road, between Boyd's Lane and Sprague Street, as well as a tract on Jepson Lane, near the Town Line. He acquired much more land by purchase.

Thomas Brownell

Was in Portsmouth prior to 1647 as in that year he was appointed "Water Bailie." He served as Commissioner four years and was Deputy one year.

His first lands, at the Coal Mines, were acquired by purchase, and there is record of but one grant to him, a lot in the hunting swamp, now a reservoir.

Giles Slocum

Is first mentioned in the Portsmouth records in 1648. He is in the 1655 list of Freemen and evidently held no public office.

His house lot was on the East Road a little below Park Avenue, and he was granted land on the north side of Sandy Point Avenue. He purchased considerable more land.

Thomas Burton

One of the early residents, was granted a house lot on Anthony Road and a farm which is now "Vaucluse."

Census Records

The first census was taken in December 1708, and is as follows:

Freeman	98
Eligible to Militia	104
White servants	8
Black servants	40
Total number of inhabitants	628

1790 Census:

Males over 16 years	411
Males under 16 years	313
Females	793
Slaves	19
Total number of inhabitants	1536
Number of families	234

Friends Church

The little island of Aquiday — Aquidneck — known now as Rhode Island seemed in the Providence of God, destined to be the shelter and nursery of Quakerism in the days of its infancy on American soil. On March 7, 1638, nineteen souls formed a civil compact for the incorporation of a "Body Politick," and proceeded to elect William Coddington as their leader and judge.

These nineteen souls with many others, had been excommunicated from the Church of Boston because of their peculiar views of religion; namely, (That true religion was not mere works, and that it was more than outward form and ceremony, and God is able and does speak directly to the hearts of men.) This little party of true "strangers and pilgrims upon the earth", — Heb. 11:13 — seeking a new place of habitation, sent John Clarke with two companions on ahead to locate a place of settlement, and with the advice of Roger Williams with whom they took counsel, they decided upon Pocasset (now Portsmouth.)

In April, 1639, a little colony at Pocasset, now Portsmouth, decided to form a new town on the other side of the island which they named Newport. According to ancient records, one Nicholas Easton, was the first white settler to build a house in Newport. In 1641, the inhabitants of Newport arranged themselves into two religious groups. William Coddington, Nicholas Easton and John Coggeshall as leaders formulated views strikingly in accord with those later held by the Society of Friends (Quakers). The other group, led by John Clarke, formed a Baptist Church.

With this information at hand, it appears that there were about fifteen years before the coming of the Quakers, a little body of believers, or "Friends of Truth" (as the Quakers originally called themselves, and a name that Portsmouth Quakers still hold in high esteem), who were in reality, Quakers in everything but name.

The first persons known by the name "Quakers" to reach American soil were two women; namely, Mary Fisher and Ann Austin who firmly believed that God had divinely called them to carry the Quaker Message to the New World. These two women arrived in Boston Harbor, in July, 1656, on a vessel named "Swallow" which sailed from Barbadoes where they had been preaching Quakerism for six months. On their arrival in Boston, the authorities searched their belongings, burned their books publicly, brought the women to shore and committed them to prison on the sole charge of being

"Quakers." These women were kept in confinement for five weeks after which the master of the "Swallow" was put under bond to transport them back to Barbadoes.

Two days after Ann Austin and Mary Fisher were taken out of Boston Harbor, another ship carrying eight Quakers sailed in. The Quakers were Christopher Holder, John Copeland, Thomas Thurston, William Brend, Mary Prince, Sarah Gibbons, Mary Weatherhead, and Dorothy Waugh. These were searched by officials and imprisoned for eleven weeks after which, they were expelled from Boston Harbor and ordered back to England.

Because of the action of the Massachusetts authorities, shipmasters became reluctant about taking on board Quaker passengers. About this time, a man named Robert Fowler, of Bridlington, England, a Quaker who was zealous for God, felt moved of the Lord to build a ship "In the cause of Truth." He built his ship and named it the "Woodhouse." Under ordinary circumstances, it was entirely too small a craft for ocean service, but the man who built it was firmly convinced that his God, Who was God of both land and sea, could guide it as He did Noah's Ark, when He shut in a few righteous souls and landed them safely upon the hill Ararat.

About the middle of June, 1657, the little "Quaker Mayflower — Woodhouse," started on her perilous voyage for New England with eleven Friends on board "Fully persuaded of the Lord's call." Six of this number were of the former party that had been expelled from Boston. The new volunteers were William Robinson, Humphrey Norton, Richard Doudney, Robert Hodgson, and Mary Clarke.

It is said that there was a diary of this trip kept by Robert Fowler, the manuscript of which is in the Devonshire House Library in London. In this diary, Fowler says, "The Lord caused us to meet together every day, and He Himself met with us," and that in these meetings, "The Lord gave definite openings as to how to steer the ship." On one occasion as they were taking counsel of

the Lord, the Word from Him was, "Cut through and steer your straightest course, and mind nothing but Me." Again he says, "When we had been five weeks at sea; when the powers of darkness seemed in the greatest strength against us, having sailed but about three hundred leagues, Humphrey Norton, falling into communion with God, informed me that he had received a comforting answer, and that on such a day we should land in America, which was even so fulfilled." Four of this little band came to Newport. Rhode Island seemed to be the most favorable spot in America for the Quakers to light upon; for, as we have foretold, there had been going on unconsciously for a score of years, a preparation for sowing this very seed. Some of the foremost families of the Rhode Island colony appeared to have accepted the Quaker Faith as soon as they heard it.

A Monthly Meeting was organized among Friends of Rhode Island as early as 1658. It was the first Monthly Meeting in America for the purpose of caring for the local business of the Society. The Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting was organized in 1699.

The New England Yearly Meeting which met annually at Newport until 1902 was begun about 1661, as it appears from a letter written by George Rofe, an English Friend, to Richard Hubberthorne, in 1661, in which he says, "We came in at Rhode Island, and we appointed a general Meeting for all Friends in those parts, which was a very great Meeting, and very precious and continued four days."

This gathering continued annually from this time on, and soon became known as the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends. By the year 1743, they had so increased in numbers, that it was not an uncommon thing for five thousand Quakers to gather in Newport to attend their Yearly Meeting. As the new territories of the West were opened for settlement, Friends began leaving Newport with a feeling that they had a message given of God for all the

world, and that they should be "about their Father's business," taking heed to the command, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."

In 1672, George Fox, the founder of the Society of Friends, visited the island, attending a "Yearly Meeting" at the house of William Coddington, at Newport, and another Meeting at the old Mott house on the west side of the town of Portsmouth. Meetings of the society were originally held at the houses of Friends, very frequently at the houses of John Easton, Matthew Berdin and Jacob Mott.

In the early part of 1692, a lot, two and a half by six rods in size, with a house upon it, was purchased from Robert Hodgson for a men's meeting of Quakers for seven pounds. Necessary repairs were made which swelled the cost to thirty pounds, eight shillings, one pence. In 1697 one half acre of land was bought from Robert Fish for a Meeting House. In this same year — 1692 — 5th month, there was a deed to Matthew Berdin, William Wodell, and Gideon Freeborn for land four rods square for a burial lot "For the love I have to the truth and the people of God which are in scorne called Quakers." — Robert Dennis.

Under date of 8 mo. 17, 1699 is found this record: "Friends have laid out the appointed place where the Meeting House shall stand, and have brought great stones and other stones to lay the foundation." About April, 1700, the Meeting House was sold to Joseph Mosey for eleven pounds, fourteen shillings and the proceeds applied to the new Meeting House. The new house was probably so far completed as to be used within a year or two after the date last mentioned. In 1703, John Warner, a Friend from North Carolina, kept a private school in the Meeting House. Sheds for horses were provided near the House in Oct. 1701, at which time it is probable the House was in use.

April 19, 1705, the Meeting "granting liberty to the Portsmouth Friends to build an addition to their House" for the convenience of the women's Meeting.

"As our Meeting House hath at this time a number of soldiers in it, it renders it inconvenient to proceed to business, therefore this Meeting is adjourned to the breaking up of the Meeting for worship at Newport next 5th day."

The Friends addressed a memorial 1 mo. /2/1777 to Lieut. General Henry Clifford, then in command of the British forces, asking for protection. The record 8 mo. /25/1778, speaks of communication between Newport and Portsmouth Friends being "obstructed." On the 9th of the 9th month, the Meeting was very small on account of the difficulties remaining. "Jacob Mott, who died 1 mo. /24/1799 was not buried at the Friends' burying ground, because it and the House were occupied by a number of German troops."

Tradition states that the American troops also occupied the House at one time. This was doubtless true when Sullivan and his men were on the Island just before the memorable battle of 1778.

Friends' Yearly Meeting Boarding School, now Moses Brown of Providence, was founded at this house, Nov. 8, 1784, of which Isaac Lawton was the principal. The island inhabitants had become impoverished by the Revolutionary War to the extent that after four years, the school had to be suspended for lack of financial support.

Until 1890 there were no salaried ministers, but that year Seth and Huldah Rees were called to this work. During their three years' stay, the parsonage was built north of the Meeting House, and the Meeting House itself was moved back from the road about thirty feet and remodeled inside. The rough timbers were covered with beautiful oak wood and the old fire-places, replaced with brick ones. Since then a good furnace and electric lights have been installed.

From 1893 to 1917, Jay Edwin Lord, Ezra Pearson, Osborn Hoffman, Samuel Hodges, James and Exie Estes and A. Edward Kelsey served as regular ministers from one to three years each.

Friends have always recognized the ministry of women and in 1918, Elizabeth J. and Adda Mary Trout were called from Cleveland, Ohio, to this pastorate and continued until December, 1934 when Adda Mary Trout died. Since that time Elizabeth J. Trout has continued the work alone.

After two hundred and sixty-eight or more years of continued service for the Lord in Portsmouth, this Friends' Meeting still supports the rugged Truths of the Bible, and is heartily in sympathy with the first "Declaration of Faith" ever issued by Quakers either in America or in England. This declaration was issued by Christopher Holder and John Copeland in 1657. These two ministers were among the number that came over in the good ship "Woodhouse."

"We do believe in the only true and living God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ — Who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days hath spoken unto us by His Son — the which Son is that Jesus Christ Who hath born of the virgin; Who suffered for our offences, is risen again for our justification, and is ascended into the highest heavens, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father even in Him do we believe, Who is the only begotten Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. And in Him do we believe alone for Salvation; by Whose blood we are washed from sin. We believe in the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Truth that proceedeth from the Father and the Son, by Whom we are sealed and adopted sons and heirs of the kingdom of heaven, by which Spirit the Scriptures are given forth — The Scriptures we own to be a true Declaration of the Father, Son, and Spirit, in which is declared what was from the beginning, what was the present and what was to come."

St. Paul's Church

(From the Episcopal Recorder, Jan. 1, 1834.)

"On Christmas Day last, S. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, R. I. was opened for the worship of Almighty God. It is a neat and commodious edifice, of the gothic order, after a plan of the architect, Mr. Warren of Providence. It will accommodate from three to four hundred persons, and is so constructed as to be advantageously susceptible of enlargement. It is waiting the visitation of the Bishop of the diocese for consecration, which will take place so soon as S. Michael's of Bristol, and S. Luke's of East Greenwich, shall be ready for the same. It has been occupied previously to its being consecrated from the circumstance that the only place the congregation had for public worship was a small schoolhouse, which was inadequate to ordinary occasions, and especially so for the peculiar one of Christmas."

It is an interesting fact, that the Rev. Mr. Honeyman, who was appointed by the Society for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts, their first missionary to Newport, in 1704, as we are informed in "An historical account of the Society, by David Humphreys," &c (page 319-20) "set up, in 1712, a lecture and preached once a fortnight, at Portsmouth, a town at the farthest end of the island, and soon found very great encouragement to continue it — an unexpected and surprising large audience of people of many persuasions." So that the ground entered on by the Church, in 1712 has been re-occupied and permanently possessed in 1833.

When the church was built it had two buttresses on each side and two front doors but no Chancel or Vestry room. The pews were the old fashioned high kind entered through a door. The windows were of plain glass with inside blinds, the church being lighted with whale oil. There was no organ, such was the

simplicity of the times that a writer in a Boston paper says: "Saint Paul's Church, Portsmouth, is one of the neatest and prettiest Churches in the diocese."

The earliest record gives Rev. John Fenner as beginning religious services July 7, 1833, in a schoolhouse standing near the Church which was opened for divine services Christmas Day, 1833, as before stated and consecrated by Bishop Griswold March 5, 1834.

The following persons with their families were connected with the Church from the beginning and were conspicuous in carrying through the early struggles, hindrances and triumphs; Stephen Thomas, John C. Burrington, Oliver D. Green, William Barker, Joseph Thomas, John G. Childs, Benjamin Greene, Borden Chase, Albert C. Greene, Parker Hall, Albert G. Cook, Henry Lawton and others.

Christ Church, Portsmouth, R. I.

The first church known in Portsmouth was a gathering of people united in prayer with God and called the Union Church.

Authentic records shown that in 1810 the Christ Church was formed. The founders were the following: Job Cook, Sally Cook, Nancy Cook, Hannah Newman, Ester Baley, Brother Elder P. Hathaway and Brother Benjamin Taylor. This lasted until 1816.

On May 27th, 1834, a meeting of a number of persons as Christians met in the Union Meeting House in this place and started the old Union Church. Elder Saloman Toby, (Minister), Samuel Clarke, Secretary.

In 1837 the Union Church turned into the Christian Church. As at that time records show that a member was selected to attend the Christian Conference in another city. The pastor of the church at that time was John Taylor.

During the war and later in 1866 when Reverend William Miller came to Portsmouth, they built a new church.

St. Anthony's Parish

St. Anthony's parish was for many years a mission of St. Mary's Church of Newport. As early as 1798 Newport was visited by Catholic priests. Archbishop Carroll, near relative of Carroll of Carrollton, signer of the Declaration of Independence, stopped there in 1803, on his way from the dedication of Holy Cross Church in Boston. For years Newport had taken care of a small mission at Portsmouth known as the Coal Mines. From the beginning of the century Bishop Cheverus and Father Byrne of Boston and Father Matignon had visited the Coal Mines. Later the mission was entrusted to the priests of St. Joseph's parish. In 1882 a chapel was built at the Coal Mines and Mass was said there once a month. In 1901 Portsmouth was made a separate parish under the patronage of St. Anthony. On May the first, 1908, at the request of Bishop Harkins the Holy Ghost Fathers took charge of the parish. The Rev. Christopher Rooney, C. S. Sp., who had been chaplain at the palace of the King and Queen of Portugal was appointed first pastor. Father Rooney who won the confidence of his people and the deep respect of those of the community not of his faith labored here until his death May 31, 1919. Father Rooney was succeeded by the Rev. Cornelius O'Rorke, C. S. Sp., a graduate of the National University of Ireland. Father O'Rorke remained here until 1925 when he was transferred to St. Christopher's Church at Tiverton. The Rev. Louis J. Ward, C. S. Sp., was then appointed pastor. From 1925 until his death in 1935 Father Ward was pastor of St. Anthony's. After his death the Rev. Bart Buckly, C. S. Sp., who had been his assistant for more than 3 years was appointed pastor.

St. Mary's Parish

In November, 1843, at the invitation of the Rev. Francis Vinton, then rector of Trinity Church, Newport, the Rev. Hobart

Williams came to South Portsmouth to organize a mission of the Episcopal Church. Services were first held in what was then known as the Church Farm, a tract of land with an old farm house, adjacent to Oakland. This property was purchased by Miss Sarah Gibbs of Oakland Farm in the spring of 1844 for the purpose of building a church and seminary.

In October, 1844, Miss Gibbs signed a deed of trust whereby St. Mary's parish, as it was to be known, received the Church Farm and other properties "to aid in the furtherance of the Gospel, and in the maintenance of the doctrine of the Protestant Episcopal Church."

The year 1847 saw the beginning of the new church and in September of that year the Rt. Rev. John P. K. Henshaw, Bishop of Rhode Island, laid the cornerstone of what he described as "a tasteful and commodious structure of stone." From then until now St. Mary's has been one of the beauty spots of the Island. Today, surrounded as it is with the lovely churchyard of stately elms and magnificent beeches and many fine spruce and Japanese maple trees, it is by many considered one of the loveliest country parish churches in this part of the country.

Over the course of nearly one hundred years it has had eleven rectors, beginning with the long rectorship of Hobart Williams, for forty years its pastor and with Miss Sarah Gibbs, its co-founder.

Associated with St. Mary's Church is the Church of the Holy Cross, Middletown. Built in 1845, it has together with St. Mary's formed St. Mary's Parish. These churches have had an intimate and interesting part in the developing of Portsmouth and Middletown. Names like Coggeshall, Gifford, Chase, Manchester and Sherman, some descendants of the early founders of Portsmouth, are to be found among the first wardens and vestrymen. Many parishioners of St. Mary's trace their ancestry back to the very earliest days of Rhode Island and from then until now, these men

and women have contributed much to the culture, religious and economic life of their community and church.

Today, St. Mary's with its lovely church, adequate Parish House and progressive spirit continues to take its place, at the beginning of the fourth century of the town's life, in furthering the high ideals of good citizenship, and good churchmanship which from its inception it has stood for with faith and devotion.

It is fitting to say in closing this article that in the churchyard, God's Acre, lie the earthly remains of many people well known in the diocese, among them the venerated Bishop of Rhode Island, the Right Reverend Thomas March Clark.

Activities connected with Portsmouth Tercentenary Celebration

First: Campaign for money. Chairman, Mrs. Walter Gurnee Dyer
Captain—Mrs. Alexander Boone
Lieutenant—Mrs. Frederick Webb
Assistants—Mrs. Frank Lang
Miss Mary Escobar
Captain—Mrs. B. W. Storrs
Lieutenant—Mrs. Arthur Sherman
Assistants—Mrs. Charles Holman
Mrs. Herman Holman
Captain—Mrs. Jack Garfarth
Lieutenant—Miss Eleanor Barker
Assistants—Mrs. Benjamin P. Phillips
Miss Mary Pierce
Captain—Mrs. Howard Hathaway
Lieutenant—Miss Rebecca Anthony
Assistants—Miss Mary Coggeshall
Mrs. Alice De Langie
Captain—Mrs. George Draper
Lieutenant—Mrs. Carl Anthony

Assistants—Mrs. Arthur Roebuck
Mrs. William Barclay

A meeting in St. Paul's Parish House under the auspices of St. Paul's Guild. At this meeting there was a display of historic objects and pictures. Many of the ladies were in authentic old costumes. Several speakers spoke on the history of the early settlement and tea was served by the ladies.

A meeting was held on May 16th in the home of Mrs. Dan Jones, who followed Mrs. Dyer as Chairman. This was largely attended and was the nucleus of what was afterwards the executive and general committee for Portsmouth Tercentenary Activity formed the same night at the Town Hall. Mrs. Dan Jones was elected Chairman, Mrs. Alexander Boone, Secretary, and Mr. Walter Gurnee Dyer, Treasurer. Dr. Berton W. Storrs was unanimously elected chairman of Founder's Brook activities as was Mrs. Howard Hathaway and Mrs. Abner Anthony, the chairman and secretary, of old houses and old sites to be marked. Mrs. Arthur Smith, publicity. Town Council, Mr. Howard Hathaway.

The general committee is as follows: Mrs. Borden Anthony, Mrs. A. Harry Draper, Mrs. Storrs, Mrs. Charles Holman, Mrs. Howard Hathaway, Mrs. William Barclay, Mrs. Arthur Smith, Mrs. Godfrey De Langie, Mrs. Abner Anthony, Miss Rebecca Anthony, Mrs. Norman, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Hardy, Mr. and Mrs. Edward West, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Vanderbilt, Mr. J. Fred Sherman, Mrs. Kate Thurston, Mrs. Carl Anthony, Miss Annie Almy, Miss Evelyn Chase, Mrs. Robert Wilkey, Mrs. Clara Chase, Mrs. Arthur Smith, Mrs. William Lawrence, Mrs. Frederick Webb, Mr. Alonzo Borden, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Holman.

Mr. Dyer reported that the town had contributed $200.00 and that the Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims had given $81.00 toward a memorial tablet.

It was decided that a bronze tablet be placed on the face of the old "pudding rock" located at "The Wattering Place," now known as Founder's Brook, the latter name having been voted upon as the most fitting by the general committee.

The inscription on the tablet is as follows;

1638 — 1936.

"Erected to honor the memory and perpetuate the spirit and ideals of the Founders of the First Government in the world to allow and to insure its citizens civil and religious liberty established on this site in the year 1638.

PORTSMOUTH COMPACT.

We whose names are underwritten do here solemnly in the presence of Jehovah incorporate ourselves with a Bodie Politick and as He shall help, will submit our persons, lives and estates unto our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, and to all those perfect and most absolute lawes of His given us in His Holy Word of Truth to be guided and judged thereby.

William Coddington, John Clarke, William Hutchinson, Jr., John Coggeshall, William Aspinwall, Samuel Wilbore, John Porter, John Sanford, Edward Hutchinson, Jr., Esq., Thomas Savage, William Dyre, William Freeborne, Phillip Shearman, John Walker, Richard Carder, William Baulston, Edward Hutchinson, Sen'r, Henry Bull, Randall Holden, Thomas Clarke, John Johnson, William Hall, John Brightman, Esq."

The committee met on the following dates: May 27th, June 3rd, June 11th and June 23rd.

It was decided that July 8th should be the day for the unveiling of the tablet and a program was arranged as follows:

Selection ..... Naval Training Station Band

National Anthem ..... Naval Training Station Band

Invocation .....Rev. Wilbur Nelson, John Clarke Church, Newport
President of Town Council of Portsmouth
Mr. Howard Hathaway
Master of Ceremonies .....Dr. Berton W. Storrs
His Excellency Governor Theodore F. Green
Rev. Gideon A. Burgess

Unveiling Ceremonies by Pauline Wilhelmina Wilkey and
Ann Stanborough Towle
(Direct Descendants)

Salute
Oration.....Hon. Charles P. Sisson
Benediction.....Rev. Gideon A. Burgess
"My Rhode Island".....Sung by Assemblage

1

Fairest of all the forty-eight
That cluster on old Glory's breast
Rhode Island's star marks this our state
Our star of hope we love the best.
Rhode Island, Rhode Island, I love each bay and highland,
Your hills and trees, your sunlit seas—Oh homeland dear,
you're my land.
Rhode Island, Rhode Island, I love each bay and highland,
Your hills and trees, your sunlit seas—Oh homeland dear,
you're my land.

2

Her men are brave, her women fair,
Their ancient hymn thus filled the air
When men are fair and women brave
Then, then shall Rhody rule the wave.

3

Aye brave to conquer in the right,
Old foes to fell, old wrongs to right,

Then welded in one army strong,
Join hands and sing our marching song.

4

March on, we march victorious,
Rhode Island day dawns glorious
From hill to hill, from shore to shore,
Our hearts are hers forever more.

It was also decided that on June 18th there should be a picnic supper at Founder's Brook, at which time all those interested in giving stepping stones in memory of Founders or early settlers could bring their stones and picnic with others in the historic old spot. The result is a memorial walk composed of the stones leading up to and around the rock. This proved far beyond the committee's expectations and is one of the outstanding activities connected with Founder's Brook.

The day of the dedication exercises dawned bright and clear and the ceremonies proceeded as planned with no interruptions. There were representatives from many towns and many state officials not on the program were honored guests. The occasion drew a large attendance.

The St. Paul's Guild in conjunction with the Tercentenary Celebration had arranged a clambake which officially opened their excellent County Fair of three days. Many who attended the Brook ceremonies proceeded to the bake. Enough cannot be said of the excellent display of historic and complete early American rooms arranged upstairs in the gallery of Mayer Hall at the Fair Grounds. In the evening there was a costume parade of 70 people in addition to the general dancing and a quadrille of three sets with the participants in costumes.

Thus closed the day which officially marked Portsmouth's share of the Rhode Island Tercentenary.

Another important activity in Portsmouth was the historic pageant connected with the Tercentenary held by the pupils at Anne

Huchinson's School. No detail was omitted to make the pageant correct in every way and the children and teachers showed themselves capable of a keen appreciation of the important events which they portrayed.

Lineal Descendants who placed stones at Founder's Brook

It was not only gratifying that every founder was remembered, some by six or seven stones, but that other early settlers had stepping stones placed to their memory.

The Lineal Descendants Who Gave Stones Are As Follows:

Miss Helen Allen
Mrs. William Allen
Miss Anne Rebecca Almy
Mr. and Mrs. Abner Anthony
Mr. Benjamin Earl Anthony
Mr. Benjamin Earl Anthony, Jr.
Miss Augusta Anthony
Miss Christine Anthony
Miss Julia Sheffield Anthony
Miss Oriana Watson Anthony
Mr. Warren Anthony, Jr.
Miss Barbara Anne Anthony
Miss Pauline Anthony
Miss Betty Anthony
Mr. Borden C. Anthony
Miss Clara Anthony
Mrs. Fanny Thomas Anthony
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clay Anthony
Mr. William W. Anthony
Mrs. Amy Francis Ashley
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Brownell Ashley
Miss Ann Agnes Austin

Mr. Rathbone Ballou
Mr. and Mrs. John Herbert Barker
Mr. James Maxson Bell

Mrs. Carlotta Coggeshall Bickford
Mr. Alonzo E. Borden
Mr. Gerald Horace Borden
Mr. Richard Chase Borden
Mrs. Byron Boyd
Miss Ethel Boyd
Mr. Harry Boyd
Miss Camilla Boyd
Mr. Charles E. Boyd, 3rd.
Mr. and Mrs William Kenyon Boyd
Miss Barbara Briggs
Mr. Barclay Mervyn Briggs
Mr. Ernest L. Briggs
Mr. Frederick Holman Briggs
Mrs. Marguerite H. Briggs
Mr. Mervin Clifton Briggs
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Brownell
Mr. Herbert Brownell, Jr.
Mrs. Bertha L. Burdick
Mrs. Norma F. Butler

Mrs. Alice Cafferty
Miss Ruth Cahoon
Mr. Wilbur Tripp Cahoon
Mr. Frederick Arthur Carlow
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Chace

Mr. Abner Chase
Mr. Arthur Leslie Chase
Mrs. Clara N. Chase
Miss Evelyn Baylies Chase
Mr. George Mason Chase
Miss Hephzibah Chase
Mr. James Chase
Mr. Luther Chase
Mrs. Luther Paul Chase
Miss Mary Louise Chase
Miss Mary Chase
Mr. Reginald Chase
Mr. Walter Bradford Chase
Mr. William Alfred Chase
Mrs. Charles Gardner Clarke
Mr. Charles Gardner Clarke
Miss Fanny T. Clarke
Mr. and Mrs. William Borden Clarke
Mrs. John Rogers Coggeshall
Miss Mary A. Coggeshall
Mrs. Helen Comstock
Mrs. Fred C. Cooke
Mr. Robert Remington Covell
Mr. William King Covell
Mrs. Helen M. Crowley
Mr. John D. Crowley
Mrs. Oliver W. Cushman

Mrs. Adelaide W. Danforth
Miss Eliza Maxson Dawley
Mr. Perry Bliven Dawley
Mr. W. S. H. Dawley & Family
Mrs. Walter Dyer
Mr. Walter Gurnee Dyer

Miss Joy Anthony Earle
Dr. Crawford Esterline
Master Charles Crawford Esterline

Mrs. Anne R. Fish
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Fish
Mrs. Edith F. Fish
Mr. Ernest R. Fish
Mr. Isaac L.Fish
Mr. Isaac L. Fish, Jr.
Mrs. Mary A. Fish
Mr. Whitney A. Fish
Mrs. Charles L. Freeborn

Mr. Jack Payne Garforth, Jr.
Miss Elizabeth Ruth Garforth
Mrs. Susan W. Gee
Mr. and Mrs. Barclay Hazard Gifford
Mr. Clayton Hazard Gifford
Miss Eileen Gorton
Mr. John Barton Gorton
Mr. Lucius Hall Gorton
Mr. Thomas Slade Gorton
Mr. Vernon Lewis Gorton
Mrs. Ida Grinnell
Mr. and Mrs. William Freeborn Grinnell

Mr. Alfred C. Hall
Mr. Alfred C. Hall, Jr.
Mr. Gordon B. Hall
Mr. Howard W. Hathaway
Mr. George R. Hicks
Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Greene Hicks
Miss Amy L. Holman
Mr. Charles A. Holman
Mrs. Sarah U. Homer

Mrs. Doris Braley Johnsson

Mrs. Kenneth Morse Lang
Mrs. Lena Morse Lang
Mrs. Mary Lauder

Mrs. Arthur H. Lawrence
Miss Cordelia Lawrence
Mr. John W. Lawrence
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Lawrence
Mr. Harry Legender

Mr. Joseph W. Mackenzie
Mr. Carlton Macomber
Mr. Isaac Borden Macomber
Mr. Morris Macomber
Miss Doris M. Manchester
Mrs. Edith M. Manchester
Miss Mary Louise Miles
Mrs. Owen Miles
Mrs. Owen Miles, Jr.
Mrs. Harriet Reed Morse
Mrs. Annie Fish Mott
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Mott
Mr. Alfred John Mott

Mrs. Hetty W. Newton

Mrs. Marion Ohlrogge

Mr. and Mrs. Jethro Harrison Peckham
Mrs. John Peckham
Mrs. Howard A. Pierce
Miss Muriel C. Pierce
Mrs. Margaret Potter

Mrs. Elizabeth W. Covell Ramsey
Mrs. Agnes Robinson
Mrs. May White Robinson
Mr. and Mrs. Warren Rodgers

Miss Harriet Frances Sanford
Mr. Arthur Almy Sherman
Mr. Fred James Sherman

Miss Hazel Lawrence Sherman
Mr. and Mrs. James Fred Sherman
Miss Jeanette Sherman
Mr. John Alden Sherman
Mr. and Mrs. John Lester Sherman
Mr. James Rathbone Sherman
Mr. and Mrs. Warren Sherman
Mr. John LeRoy Simpson
Mr. Borden Lawton Sisson
Mrs. Hannah Hall Sisson
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Smiley
and 5 daughters
Miss Elizabeth Smiley
Mr. Allen Carter Smith
Mrs. Arthur Ogden Smith
Rev. James Harry Smith
Mr. William Arthur Smith, Sr.
Mr. William Arthur Smith, Jr.
Mr. William T. H. Sowle
Mrs. William T. H. Sowle

Mr. Abner Tallman
Mrs. Kate Almy Thurston
Miss Ann Stanborough Towle
Mrs. Kenneth Towle
Mrs. Anne T. Tucker
Miss Elizabeth G. Tucker
Mr. and Mrs. Minot Aldrich Tucker

Mrs. Eunice Morse Ware
Mrs. Iverne Morse Ware
Miss Barbara Jane Ware
Mr. John Coggeshall Weiss
Mr. Edward H. West
Mrs. Mary Anthony Wheeler
Mrs. Edward H. West
Mrs. Robert Tyson Fitzhugh
(Dorothea H. West)
Mr. Reginald Anthony Wheeler, Jr.

Miss Pauline Wilhelmina Wilkey
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Arthur Wilkey
Mrs. Claude G. Williams
Miss Gwendolyn Williams
Mr. Perry Williams
Miss Elizabeth Maxson Wood
Mrs. George C. Wood

Stones placed at Founder's Brook

Mrs. Borden C. Anthony
Mrs. Mary C. Anthony
Mrs. Warren Anthony

Mrs. Mary J. Berlenback & Family
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Boone
Mrs. Charles Boyd

Mrs. Frederick Chase
Mr. Frederick C. Cook
Cadets of Temperance
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph De Costa

Miss Kate Durfee

Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Fereira
Friends Meeting

Mrs. Alfred C. Hall
Mr. Edgar Woodard Hardy
Mrs. Charles Holman

Mrs. Dan W. Jones

Mr. Colby Mitchell

Mr. Augustus R. Pacheo
Mr. Benjamin Phillips
Mr. Howard A. Pierce

Mr. Antone M. Rezendes
Mr. Antone Rezendes, Jr.
Mr. David M. Rezendes
Mr. John Rezendes
Mr. Manuel Rezendes

Mrs. Arthur Sherman
Mrs. Minot Steele
Dr. and Mrs. Storrs
Mr. Joseph A. Sullivan
Mrs. Olmstead Sutton

Mrs. Moses Taylor

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Vanderbilt

Mr. Frederick Webb
Mr. Frank W. Wheeler

The following list of sites and old houses were marked

1.	Richard Sisson	270	
2.	Phillip Sherman	200	Site—same tract
3.	Battle of Rhode Island		Site—Turkey Hill
4.	Boyd House		Site—First Methodist Meeting
5.	Town Common Property		Common Fence
6.	Mrs. Charles H. Borden		Hedley
7.	Quaker Meeting House		First Town Hall
8.	Stub Toe Lane	Trout	Methodist Meeting House
9.	Gardener Sherman	1774	
10.	W. W. Anthony	250 years	
11.	Isaac Hathaway	1755	
12.	Oliver Hicks	1780—90	
13.	George Anthony	1730	
14.	Redwood		
15.	Lawrence	1700	Silk Mill
16.	Fred Holman	1782	original
17.	Silas Davol place	1st	private school
18.	Whipping Post		
	1st Town Hall		
19.	Glen		
	William Baulston—1st House of Entertainment		